

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-10 (canceled)

11. (New) A multi-part composite valve (1) for an internal combustion engine, wherein a valve shaft (2) and a valve plate (4) are separately produced and joined to each other in an overlap area (6), wherein the valve plate (4) is cast on-to the valve shaft (2), and wherein the valve shaft (2) in the transition area (6) is provided, prior to the casting-on, at least partially with at least one intermediate layer (8), which subsequent to the casting-on is material-to-material bonded both to the valve shaft (2) and the valve plate (4) in the manner of a chemical bond.
12. (New) The valve according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer (8) is in the form of a gradient layer (10) or multi-strata layer (12).
13. (New) The valve according to claim 1, wherein the valve shaft (2) in the overlap area (6) exhibits macroscopic undercuts or recesses (14).
14. (New) The valve according to claim 1, wherein the valve shaft (2) is mechanically or chemically roughened in the overlap area (6) for formation of microscopic undercuts or recesses (14).
15. (New) The valve according to claim 1, wherein the valve plate (4) is comprised of an aluminum-titanium compound.
16. (New) The valve according to claim 1, wherein the valve shaft (2) is comprised of a steel.

17. (New) The valve according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one intermediate layer (8) comprises an Ag-based alloy and/or Ni-based alloy and/or Ti-based alloy and/or a Cu-based alloy.
18. (New) The valve according to claim 1, wherein the at least one intermediate layer (8) is constituted on the basis of a metal oxide.
19. (New) The valve according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer (8) prior to casting-on of the valve plate (4) exhibits an open porosity of between 1% and 75%.